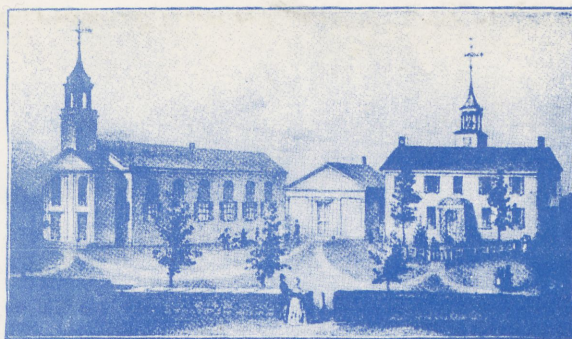


MIDDLEBOROUGH HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION, INC.  
MIDDLEBOROUGH, MASSACHUSETTS

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A View of Old Middleborough



Baptist Church and Chapel, First Peirce Academy, 1808.

ANNUAL REPORT  
1978 - 1979



## REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT

1978 - 1979

My first year as President of the Association has been one in which I have renewed my acquaintances with its organization and attempted to improve its functional capacities. To accomplish this we began during the fall to hold joint executive board meetings of the Association and the Museum. This has served to improve communication between these important boards and to enable them to arrive at creative solutions to mutual problems. These joint meetings also have produced many new ideas and approaches to our function as an important part of the community. We hope over the next several years to impliment many of thses ideas and as a result improve the vitality of the organization.

One such proposal, the First Annual Museum Spring Cleaning met with very great success. The membership responded with contributions in excess of two-hundred dollars and the various committees worked diligently to complete their assigned tasks. As a result, those who participated felt better about our museum and our responsibility for its continued existence. I hope during my second year of office to continue this program and initiate others of equal bennefit.

I thank all of you for the opportunity to serve as your president and hope that I can count on you for your continues suppoort of our Association and the Museum.

Sincerely,  
Frederick E. Eayrs, Jr.  
President.



ANNUAL REPORT OF THE SECRETARY

1978 - 1979

The following is the list of officers that have served the past year:

President-----Frederick E. Eayrs, Jr.

Vice-President-----Thomas A. Maddigan

Secretary-----Miss Ruth E. Gates

Treasurer-----Kenneth E. Butler

Directors-----Thomas Frates  
(Term expires in 1979)

Joseph Sinauski  
(Term expires in 1980)

A. Kingman Pratt  
(Term expires in 1981)

Membership Secretary--Miss Ruth E. Gates

Antiquarian Secretary-Priscilla Derrick  
(For Subscriptions) (until April 1)  
(presently serving)--Miss Ruth Gates

Program Chairman-----David Guilford

Refreshments Chairmen-Mrs. Andrea Eayrs  
Mrs. Susan Maddigan

The programs of the last year have all been very interesting to all who attended the meetings. In November an excellent program on Covered Bridges of New England was presented by Mrs. Robert Cossaboom of Bridgewater assisted by her husband. In February, Mrs. Cynthia Kressell of Marshfield presented a lecture on the North River-Testimony of the Past-Challenge to the Future. This was very well received by all who attended in spite of the bitter cold evening. In April, Professor William Cole of the Bridgewater State College spoke on the Indians of the 17th Century in New England.

At the April 2 meeting, Mr. Eayrs, the President appointed a nominating committee to bring in a slate of officers at the annual meeting on June 4 at the Riverside. They are as follows:

Henry Pumphreys-Chairman  
Kenneth Maddigan  
A. Kingman Pratt

The offices to be filled this year are secretary, treasurer, and one director for three years.

I personally would like to express my appreciation to our former mailing chairman, Mr. Charles Townsend, who has done such a good job in addressing everything for us that has been sent out during the last few years. We wish him and Mrs. Townsend good luck in their new



venture. Any changes of address for either the membership list or the Antiquarian listing should now be sent to me as I am handling all the addressing as of April 1.

I also would like to thank all the other officers, directors, and members of the association for all your kindnesses, to me and with the help of all, we can carry this association on for years. It is a pleasure to work with such a fine group of people and I hope I can continue to serve you to the best of my ability.

Respectfully submitted,

*Ruth Gates*

Ruth Gates, Secretary.

5/1/79



REPORT OF THE MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY

1978 - 1979

During the last year we have lost four of our members who have been called to their rest:

Mr. Paul C. Leonard

Mrs. Jennie Bissonnette

Mr. Kenneth Greene

Mrs. Marjorie Cushing

This is a list of new members who have joined since I made my last annual report last year.

Col. Harold Doud -- Fullerton, Cal  
Mrs. Raymond W. Bostedt -- South Bend, Indiana  
Dwight W. Caswell -- Augusta, Georgia  
Cindy Lou Farry -- Middleboro  
Mr. Daniel Ferguson "  
Mr. Roland Case "  
Mr. Kenneth Greene "  
Mrs. Rodney Briggs -- Fairhaven, Mass.  
Myra Allen Clark -- Charlottesville, Va.  
Nathan Bryant -- Holland, Michigan  
Paul Malcolm -- Middleboro  
Mrs. Roger F. Ryder -- Alexandria, Va.  
Mrs. Jane Pickering -- Middleboro  
Atty. George C. Decas "  
M. Vivian Santerre -- Woodland, Me.  
Mary Ellen Galbraith -- Santa Barbara, Cal.  
Robin Gross -- Middleboro  
Rev. and Mrs. Rollin Johnson -- Halifax, Mass.  
Mr. and Mrs. James Prescott -- Middleboro  
Janice A. Ord "  
Jean M. Bacon "  
Laurie Stevens -- Bridgewater, Mass.  
Joanne McComiskey -- Middleboro  
John D. Maxim -- Leominster, Mass.  
Mr. and Mrs. Linwood T. Brown -- Brockton, Mass.  
Inez P. Kanable -- Willingboro, New Jersey  
Mrs. Alice Wood -- Middleboro  
Mr. and Mrs. Richard King -- Middleboro  
Mr. John Alden -- Ladysmith, Wisconsin  
Mr. Clifton M. Foreman -- Tacoma, Washington

If any member changes his or her address during the year, will you please let me know immediately, so we can keep our mailing list up to date. We don't like to hear reports from members saying that they don't get their mail delivered. If dues are not kept paid up, names will be removed from the mailing list.

Respectfully submitted,

*Ruth Gates*

Ruth Gates,  
Membership Secretary.

5/1/79



MIDDLEBOROUGH HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION, INC.

REPORT OF THE TREASURER

JUNE 1979

BALANCE JUNE 1978 ----- \$2884.86

RECEIVED:

ANTIQUARIAN SUBSCRIBERS	265.50	
ANTIQUARIAN ADVERTISERS	650.00	
MEMBERSHIP	1158.00	
INTEREST	147.42	
DONATIONS	100.00	
STOCK DIVIDENDS (RUTH THOMAS ESTATE)	487.61	
PROCEEDS FROM SALE OF RUTH THOMAS HOME	800.00	3608.53
		<u>6493.39</u>

DISBURSED:

ANTIQUARIAN PRINTING	1456.17	
ANTIQUARIAN MAILING & EXPENSE	64.06	
GENERAL EXPENSE	56.49	
MAILING & POSTAGE	223.48	
PRINTING	282.50	
SPEAKERS	125.00	
SAFE DEPOSIT BOX	20.00	
LIABILITY INSURANCE	683.45	
		<u>2911.15</u>

ASSETS:

BANK BALANCE	3381.56	
CHECKING ACCOUNT	150.83	
ADVANCE MAILING ACCOUNT	49.85	(BAL.) \$3582.24
		<u>6493.39</u>

LAWRENCE B. ROMAIN MEMORIAL FUND

BALANCE JUNE 1978 ----- \$286.05

RECEIVED:

INTEREST	16.95	16.95
		<u>(BAL.) \$303.00</u>

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED

*Kenneth E. Butler*

KENNETH E. BUTLER

TREASURER



# MIDDLEBOROUGH HISTORICAL MUSEUM

## REPORT OF THE TREASURER JUNE 1979

BALANCE JUNE 1978 ----- \$ 9296.70

### RECEIVED:

ADMISSIONS	438.90	
DONATIONS- SPRING CLEAN-UP	210.00	
FLEA MARKET	585.76	
SALES	341.70	
INTEREST	422.66	1999.02
		<u>11295.72</u>

### DISBURSED:

HOSTESSES	575.00
ELECTRICITY	169.37
REPAIRS & BUILDING MATERIAL	1943.85
TELEPHONE	321.18
PURCHASES	333.32
	<u>3342.72</u>

### ASSETS:

BANK BALANCE	7560.60	
CHECKING ACCOUNT	392.40	(BAL.) \$ 7953.00
		<u>11295.72</u>

## MUSEUM ENDOWMENT FUND

BALANCE JUNE 1978 ----- \$ 1415.40

### RECEIVED:

INTEREST	92.17	
DONATIONS	425.00	
FROM SALES OF TOM THUMB & HIS LADY	58.00	575.17
		<u>(BAL.) \$ 1990.57</u>

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED

*Kenneth E. Butler*

KENNETH E. BUTLER

TREASURER



## REPORT OF THE MUSEUM CURATOR

The outstanding gift during the past year was the extensive lighting collection presented by Mrs. Harold A. Hall in memory of her husband, a past president of the Middleborough Historical Association. The collection consists of some 135 pieces, illustrating lighting methods from Biblical times to the 20th century. Mrs. Hall devoted a great deal of time arranging the exhibit, numbering each piece so each one might be identified by comparing numbers with titles on a list compiled by Mrs. Hall.

From the estate of Mrs. Stella Lang of North Lakeville, the museum received two glass cases which will be most useful in arranging displays. An interesting large wooden sign was received from Mr. Carl Sampson of Carver. This sign was used by the George Woods Organ Company located on Cambridge St. in 1884. Two complete World War II uniforms were given by Mrs. Thomas Tate and Mrs. Leola Savery of Middleboro. A reminder of the past was presented by Mrs. Marjorie Haven and her late sister Miss Minnei Davis both of Chatham. This was a large wreath of wool flowers in an oval frame, a familiar object in almost every parlor in the 1800's.

For the Tom Thumb collection came a large collection of articles and photographs of the Tom Thumbs, from a relative of Lavinia, Mrs. Olive Bolin of Randolph. Ernest Bigelow donated an organ that was in the Tom Thumb house on Plymouth Street. A quilt made by Mrs. Huldah Bump, mother of Lavinia, was given by Mrs. Vivian Harlow through the courtesy of her daughter-in-law, Mrs. Marion Harlow. With this came two tiny hand-knit mitts, made of rust-colored silk thread, worn by Mrs. Tom Thumb, and a fork used by General Tom Thumb, from Mrs. Myra Burke of South Bridgewater.



These are but a small portion of the many articles donated to the Museum throughout the year. This variety of gifts adds greatly to the interest and value of the museum.

We wish to thank our several hostesses who warmly greet our many visitors and make them feel welcome.

Respectfully submitted,

*Mertie E. Romaine*

Curator.